

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2453
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2002
PUBLIC CALL OFFICES
RAJO SINGH

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of public call offices set up in villages of Shekhpura, Lakhisarai, Jamui and Begusarai districts during the last three years so far;
- (b) the targeted number of public call offices were to be set up in villages during 2001-2002 and whether this target has been achieved;
- (c) the targeted number of telephones to be installed during 2002-2003;
- (d) the estimated expenditure to be incurred on this project;
- (e) the number of public call offices malfunctioning in villages of Shekhpura, Lakhisarai, Jamui and Begusarai so far during 2001-2002; and
- (f) the amount spent for repairing of public telephones in villages during 2001-2002?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. S PASWAN)

- (a) 2907 public call offices were set up in villages of Shekhpura, Lakhisarai, Jamui and Begusarai districts during the last three years.
- (b) 25,741 Village Public Telephones were targeted to be set up in Bihar during the year 2001-2002. This target was not achieved.
- (c) 2,53,800 direct exchange line (including fixed, WLL & mobile telephones) are targeted to be installed during 2002-2003 in Bihar.
- (d) The expenditure to be incurred on this project has been estimated at Rs.448 crore approximately.
- (e)&(f): A total of 389 MARR VPTs were malfunctioning in villages of Shekhpura, Lakhisarai, Jamui and Begusarai during 2001-2002 and an amount of Rs.12,992/- was spent on repairs of public telephones in villages of these four districts during 2001-2002.